

We claim:

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1. A crystalline choline ascorbate
  2. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 1 in the form of crystals free from water of crystallization.
  3. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in either of claims 1 or 2, wherein the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $4.55 \text{ \AA}$  are most intense in the range between  $3.40$  and  $4.70 \text{ \AA}$  in the  $2 \theta$ -X-ray powder diffractogram
  4. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.55 \text{ \AA}$  is at least  $0.5$ .
  5. A crystalline choline ascorbate as claimed in claim 3, wherein the intensity ratio of the diffraction lines at  $d = 3.80 \text{ \AA}$  and  $d = 4.67 \text{ \AA}$  is at least  $0.4$ .
  6. A process for preparing crystalline choline ascorbate by reacting ascorbic acid with trimethylamine and ethylene oxide, which comprises carrying out the reaction in the temperature range from  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  to  $40^\circ\text{C}$ .
  7. A process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the reaction is carried out in a water-miscible organic solvent.
  8. A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein choline ascorbate is crystallized in the solvent used for the reaction.
  9. A choline ascorbate obtainable by a process defined according to one of claims 6 to 8.
  10. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to one of claims 1 or 9 for producing drugs.
  11. The use of choline ascorbate defined according to one of claims 1 or 9 as additive in foods, animal feeds, or as a component in food supplements.